

The monthly ministry development ezine of WCG-USA Church Administration and Development Equipping workers and leaders for Great Commandment-Great Commission (GC2) ministry



Dan Rogers

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GC2 equipper is edited by Ted Johnston and published monthly by WCG Church Administration and Development (CAD).

Note that our resource recommendations do not contitute unreserved endorsement.

We welcome your questions, comments, short articles, resource recommendations, and testimonies. Send them to Ted.Johnston@wcg.org.

Happy New Year!

2007 brings new opportunity to glorify our Heavenly Father, walking in step with the Holy Spirit, fulfilling God's Great Commandment to embrace Jesus and express his love, and Jesus' Great Commission to make disciples who make disciples.

In the year ahead may we all experience the joy of active participation in GC2 ministries that...

- build believers
- equip workers (for building and winning)
- win the lost
- multiply disciplemaking leaders and ministries.

I pray that we will be faithful and fruitful in these areas. And fruit will come through prayerful implementation of meaningful disciplemaking goals. See Ted Johnston's article on page 3.

I encourage you to make one such goal the development of ministry to children. See Q&A on page 2 concerning vacation Bible schools, and the resource lists at http://youth.wcg.org/generations/familyministries.htm).

In 2007 CAD's ministry development team (MDT) will offer GC2 training conferences around the country. These will include training seminars for our new district pastoral leaders (we hope to have all the new pastoral networks up and running by early spring). We'll also offer training seminars and workshops to pastoral networks and congregations, addressing a variety of disciplemaking ministry topics. We'll soon distribute a brochure that outlines what we offer.

Please pray with me concerning these developments, including the national conference for senior pastors and other elders in Indian Wells, CA this coming July. This important conference is designed to be a wonderful time of renewal, vision-casting and encouragement for all of our elders and their spouses. I urge them all to attend.

In Christ's service,

Dan Rogers CAD director/superintendent of U.S. ministers



Q & A: Tips and Resources

$oldsymbol{Q}$: How can we as a congregation reach out to children?

A: A great way is to take children to one of our camps (see a list of WCG camps at <u>http://youth.wcg.org/generations/campministries.htm</u>).

Another way is to hold a Vacation Bible School (VBS). VBS's are great for sharing Christ's love with churched and unchurched children and their parents. Janice Bass, children's church coordinator of the WCG congregation in Kansas City, reports on their VBS experience:

"It started 4 years ago as an effort to reach children in the neighborhood of one of our Children's Church teachers. We held a VBS in a park close to her house. It went over well.

"The next year we moved to a new location. We handed out flyers and had fun talking to many parents and children. There was lots of interest but little response. However, people in the church brought children that they knew.

"This year we used African Safari—a VBS curriculum from Gospel Lite. We marched into the building carrying signs and maracas, dancing to music provided on CD's with the curriculum. When we arrived in the building, we opened with prayer. Then we discussed our theme of prayer animals and facts about Africa. We then sang the Lord's Prayer. Each day we sang songs provided with the curriculum.

"After the lesson, we did a craft for each level (we had two levels). Then we went outside and played games based on the safari theme. We then went back into the building for safari themed refreshments. We also had a door prize each day.

"Since we do not have our own building, we had to set up the building and take it down every Sunday. We started on the second Sunday in June and finished up on the second Sunday in July. I had excellent help from the children's church teachers, some parents, and others. Everyone I asked was more than willing to help.

"Two Sundays prior to VBS a few of us went to a local park and distributed flyers and talked to parents. We had some conversations with interesting people. We had a few children who came who have never attended our church. They had a good time and wanted their mother to bring them back again.

"After four years of patient learning our VBS program is now working well. Everybody learns and has fun at the same time."

Questions for Janice? Email her at janiceb64@yahoo.com

Tips:

- 1. Save money by buying a VBS curriculum that is a couple of years old (you can often find these at a Bible book store).
- 2. Consider involving parents and grandparents—invite whole families to participate in the VBS together.



VACATION BIBLE





John Stonecypher

$oldsymbol{Q}$: Where can I get help in putting together a church website?

A: John Stonecyper, WCG pastor in Iowa recommends checking out the website at <u>http://www.churchcommunicationspro.com/</u>. It offers helpful advice about building church websites including lots of how-to's like "How to start a sermon podcast." John says that the site is helpful for any pastor who has a tech-savvy kid eager to contribute to ministry work.

Implementing disciplemaking goals



Ted Johnston

By Ted Johnston, Generations Ministries director and MDT member

More and more of our congregations are focusing on disciplemaking strategy. Many have a *vision document* that presents their core values, vision, mission, strategies and goals. This is important progress.

I encourage us all to review and 'tweak' our vision document as we enter a new year. In particular, it's important to set measurable goals for implementing in 2007 a balanced disciplemaking strategy through our congregational ministries.

Having clear, measurable goals is half the battle—but not all of it. We're all challenged to implement what we have planned. Aubrey Malphurs in his helpful article, "Implementing Church Strategy" notes that,

"Most experts...have identified implementation as the greatest problem in the strategizing process. Having a strategy in writing is one thing, turning it into action is quite another....The temptation is to spend all your time on vision, mission, or strategy and none on implementation. At some point you have got to move."

Implementation is difficult because it usually involves change, and people tend to be change resistant. To help leaders implement strategic goals in a congregation Malphurs offers four tips from Ken Blanchard:

- 1. Provide lots of positive and clear information concerning the change.
- 2. Help members understand why the change is needed and how they can survive (and even thrive).
- 3. Address *implementation*: How will the change be accomplished?
- 4. Address *impact*: What will the change result in? How will it benefit the church? How does it align with God's will?

I pray that your congregation will make substantial progress by defining and implementing measurable disciplemaking goals in 2007.

You can read Malphurs' full article online at Building Church Leaders.com: <u>http://www.christianitytoday.com/bcl/areas/churchministries/articles/061220.html</u>